

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Indiana Farm Service Agency Risk Management Agency 5981 Lakeside Blvd. Indianapolis, IN 46278 Contact: Julia A. Wickard 317-407-5759 julia.wickard@in.usda.gov

USDA RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR TO VISIT CENTRAL INDIANA FARMS AND TALK WITH FARMERS

INDIANAPOLIS, August 12, 2012 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA) Administrator William Murphy will travel to Indiana on August 13 and 14 to visit with Indiana farmers in "Barn Hall" style meetings on farmer's operations in Hancock and Hendricks County, respectively. The tour stops are open to the media and public. The Administrator will be available for media interviews.

WHO: USDA Risk Management Agency William Murphy. Administrator Murphy provides leadership

and oversight for the Risk Management Agency (RMA). RMA provides economic protection and risk management tools to America's farmers primarily through federally sponsored crop insurance delivered and serviced by private insurance companies. In this capacity, he is also Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), and a non-voting member of the FCIC Board of

Directors.

WHAT: Visit two (2) Indiana farms to talk with farmers and other agricultural stakeholders about RMA's

programs and policies.

WHEN: Monday, August 13, 2012: 1 p.m. EDT

Tuesday, August 14, 2012: 9 a.m. EDT

WHERE:

(1) Approximately 1 p.m. EDT – Monday, August 13, 2012 Hancock County Pork and Grain Farmers Eric and Peggy Lawyer

Meet at 11655 E County Rd 1100 N, Shirley, IN.

(2) Approximately 9 a.m. EDT – Tuesday, August 14, 2012 Hendricks County Grain Farm owned by Mike Starkey Meet at 10132 E County Road 700 N, Brownsburg, IN.

<u>WHY:</u> Farmers in Indiana experienced a dry and mild spring which led to early planting in many parts of the state. Lack of rainfall and the extreme heat complicated the growing season and pollination of the crop, thus leaving Hoosier farmers in a difficult situation. RMA Administrator Murphy will be in Indiana to hear directly from farmers affected most severely with the drought and to discuss mitigating factors to assist producers this year and in the future.

NOTE: The farm visits are open to the media and public. For more information, contact Julia A. Wickard, Indiana Farm Service Agency State Executive Director, who will be traveling with Administrator Murphy. Ms. Wickard can be reached at 317-407-5759 or julia.wickard@in.usda.gov.